



Newsletter

August 2005

N° 199

<http://www.iasnet.org>

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New IAS Bureau and Council

According to the Bye-Laws of the International Association of Sedimentologists, the list of nominations for the new Bureau and Council has to be published in the Newsletter one year before the International Sedimentological Congress. The next ISC will be held in Fukuoka, Japan, from 27 August to 1 September 2006, so the time for announcing the nominations is now.

The present Bureau proposes the following new composition:

President:	Finn Surlyk (Denmark)
Past-President:	Judith A. McKenzie (Switzerland)
General Secretary:	José-Pedro Calvo (Spain)
Treasurer:	Patric Jacobs (Belgium)
Vice-Presidents:	Maria Mutti (Germany) Davor Pavelic (Croatia) Eduardo Piovano (Argentina)
Editors:	Paul A. Carling (UK) Adrian Immenhauser (The Netherlands)
Special Publications Secretary:	Isabel Montañez (USA)
Council:	A.S. Alsharhan (U.A.E.) Nic Beukes (South Africa) Gilbert Camoin (France) Brian Jones (Canada) Ryo Matsumoto (Japan) Dilce Rossetti (Brazil)

Members of the IAS may propose alternative lists of nominations which have to be sent to the General Secretary before November 30th, 2005. Such lists must be supported by at least 50 signatures of members and have to include the written agreement of the nominees.

José-Pedro Calvo
General Secretary

REPORT ON

15th Spanish Sedimentological Congress, 4th Symposium on Stratigraphy and Palaeogeography of Permian and Triassic in Spain, and 4th SWG Workshop IGCP 458 and 467

*Elche, Alicante, Spain
11-14 September 2005*

The 15th Spanish Sedimentological Congress (SSC) will be held in Elche (Alicante), from September 11th to 14th. The conference will run together with the Spanish Meeting on Permo-Triassic Stratigraphy. A very long path is already behind this new issue of the Spanish Sedimentological Congress that gives the scientific community working on Sedimentology an opportunity to meet colleagues with common interest in the topic.

From the beginning of the 60's, the scientific community from Spain, together with specialists from other countries, has been concerned with sedimentological approaches to a variety of case studies in different geological zones of the Iberian country and has met to sharing scientific experiences and discussing models and interpretations. Over the years, the SSC has been held in Madrid (1962), Zaragoza (1964), Oviedo (1968), Pamplona (1970), Granada (1972), and Barcelona (1974). The meeting combining Oviedo and León (1977), in northern Spain, marked the beginning of a new periodicity in the celebration of the events which, from that time ahead, were organised every three years. A new series of SSC meetings, starting in Salamanca (1980), Menorca (1983), newly Barcelona (1986) and finally Bilbao (1989), followed successfully.

After its celebration in Bilbao, the Spanish Sedimentological Congress underwent a halt, as no local groups took over the responsibility for its organization. Some reasons may be argued to explain this situation: as compared with other European countries, the number of Geological departments in Spain is relatively small and the potential organising committees of SSC usually come from university research groups; other reason explaining the crisis was, at least

in part, a new orientation of the national scientific policy, which prizes almost exclusively papers published in international journals with a high impact factor and a high position in the JCR.

The current President of the Geological Society of Spain, Dr. Alfonso Meléndez, from the University of Zaragoza, contributed decisively to taking up again the SSC promoting a new issue in Teruel, June 1995. After five years of uncertainty, this event allowed to surpass the lack of continuity between the Spanish sedimentological meetings. In Teruel, an enthusiastic group of sedimentologists from different regions of Spain gave a new boost to these meetings programming their activities for the forthcoming years. Then, the year to hold the next meeting was conditioned by the organisation of the International Sedimentological Congress (15th ISC) in Alicante, 1998. A proposal for organising together the ISC and the SSC in Alicante was not supported by the majority of sedimentologists attending the Teruel meeting. Certainly this was a good decision as many Spanish sedimentologists were fully involved in the organisation of field trips, symposia, meetings of working groups, round tables and other activities of the 15th ISC, successfully held in Alicante in 1998. The organisation of the SSC coincident with the international congress probably would have caused more problems than benefits for both events. Instead of that, the research group working on Sedimentology at the University of Jaén took over the commitment to organise the next national meeting some years later.

While programming the Jaén meeting, a new event took place putting another brick in the present configuration of the Spanish Sedimentological Congresses. In the horizon of a few months, another much related meeting as it was the «IV Conference on the Cretaceous of Spain» went to be held. Scientists attending that kind of meetings supported by the Spanish Group of the Mesozoic Era are largely coinciding with those attending the Sedimentology meetings. Moreover, the number of scientific meetings and workshops had grown in the European Union in few years. All the ingredients were ready; the new idea grew up and the two meetings were planned and held simultaneously in September 2001 in Jaén. A new four years periodicity was accepted for the forthcoming meetings, trying to find in the future a fixed play just in the year prior to the celebration of the International Sedimentological Congress organised by IAS.

The Jaén meeting also served to situate the Sedimentological and Mesozoic Spanish Meetings in new coordinates since two important national institutions, the Geological Society of Spain (SGE) and the Spanish Geological Survey (IGME), were deeply involved in the organisation of the meeting, also providing financial support. All the accepted contributions were published in two volumes of the *Geotemas* journal, the new non-periodic journal of the SGE born for this aim, which made part of the documentation given to the delegates. In addition, two volumes of the *Journal of Iberian Geology*, an international publication in Earth Sciences edited by the Spanish Research Council (CSIC) and the University Complutense of Madrid (UCM), included enlarged versions of papers selected from the contributions presented in the Jaén 2001 meeting.

This is the framework in which the Elche 2005 meeting has been organised. Once more time, it is remarkable the synergy of the Sedimentology and Mesozoic Spanish research groups in organising the event. All those interested

in Permo-Triassic stratigraphy and/or in varied sedimentological topics dealing with the sedimentary deposits of such a geologically rich country as Spain is, are invited to attend the Elche meeting, from 11 to 14 September this year. The organization of the conference is led by Dr. Ana Márquez-Aliaga, from the Department of Geology of the University of Valencia (UVEG), with strong scientific and logistic support from the Department of Earth Sciences and Environment of the University of Alicante (UA) and the Palaeontological Museum of Elche (MUPE). They have prepared a one day pre-meeting field trip, on 11 September, two days for oral and poster presentations, and a post-meeting field trip on 14 September. The pre-meeting field trip will run in the province of Castellón and will be focused on «*The Permian and the Triassic of the Las Palmas Desert*», an area showing superb outcrops that will allow the field trip participants to get a complete nice view of the sedimentological and paleontologic features of the sedimentary rocks accumulated throughout this time interval as well as their relation with the synsedimentary tectonism. The post-meeting field trip is planned to show the sedimentary record of the «*Messinian and Pliocene events in the Bajo Segura basin*», in the Alicante province, focusing on the different expressions of the Mediterranean salinity crisis.

During the days in Elche, two meetings of the IGCP Spanish Working Groups (projects n° 458: *Triassic/Jurassic Boundary Events* and n° 467: *Triassic Time and Trans-Panthalassan Correlations*), coordinated by Dr. Ana Márquez-Aliaga, will also be held. All people interested in these attractive activities and field trips can contact the organizing committee through the web page of the meeting: <http://www.cidarismpe.org/congreso/index.html>

Pedro A. Ruíz Ortíz
*IAS National Correspondent from
Spain*

ANNOUNCEMENT

Lessons in Tectonics, Climate and Eustacy from the Stratigraphic Record in Arc Collision Zones

***A GSA Penrose Meeting Price, Utah, USA
October 11-14, 2005***

The sediments deposited at active plate boundaries record tectonic, oceanographic and climatic processes in these dynamic tectonic settings. As such sediments and sedimentary rocks are key to understanding and quantifying the evolution of these processes during arc collisions. The stratigraphic and tectonic history of convergent plate margins is dominated, not by long periods of steady state subduction, but instead by collisions of between arcs and oceanic topography, as well as with passive continental margins. Such collisions are far more common in the geological record than collisions between major continental blocks.

Arc-continent collisional settings are some of the most dynamic sedimentary settings on Earth, where rapid tectonic vertical motions within sedimentary basins interact with dramatic source exhumation and an intensely erosive local climate to generate complicated and sometimes thick stratigraphic packages. The collision of ridges and seamounts with open ocean active margins controls the rates of tectonic subduction erosion in these regions and in turn the nature of forearc sedimentation. Collision of seamounts and ridges with trenches generates tilting and hundreds of meters of uplift in the forearc, typically followed by rapid subsidence and mass wasting that strongly influences the sedimentary facies and stratigraphy preserved in forearc basins.

Enhanced tectonic erosion driven by collision may accelerate the rate at which arc crust is recycled back into the upper mantle, or in other cases can lead to accretion. Moreover, because arc-continent collision is an important process by which continents are built, the sedimentary record of such processes holds out the best hope of reconstructing the history of continental accretion and destruction. We anticipate a GSA special paper and a scientific white paper for future margin research to be derived from this meeting.

The meeting will take place 10-14 October 2005 and will be held at the Holiday Inn in Price, Utah, an area with dramatic views of the famous Book Cliffs deltaic sections. The meeting comprises two days of oral and poster presentations of what is now known of arc collisional zones, followed by a day-long field excursion to see some of the regional geology. A final day will involve discussion of future objectives. Including those related to the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP). The timing is chosen to immediately precede the GSA annual meeting in Salt lake City, making attendance at both gatherings an option for those of limited resources. Application deadline is 1st September but abstracts can be submitted any time after 15th June. For further details see <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/~wpg008/ArcPenroseMeeting.html>

Meeting Conveners

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Climate and Biota of the Early Paleogene 2006

*International Meeting and Field Trips
Bilbao, 12-16 June 2006*

The early Paleogene is the most recent period when a warm «greenhouse» climate prevailed on Earth. The warm Paleocene climate climaxed in the early Eocene, when subtropical forests existed at latitudes above 60°. A gradual cooling followed that led to the first appearance of continental ice sheets in the earliest Oligocene.

Superimposed on this general trend, several short-lived, transient climatic perturbations have been discovered. The most prominent of these is a brief (H_e 100 kyr) but intense warming of 5 to 10° developed at the onset of the Eocene Epoch, accompanied by a negative carbon isotope excursion registered in both continental and marine archives. The realization that this transient event was coeval with major faunal and floral turnovers in continental, shallow-marine and deep-marine realms, as well as with pronounced changes in global precipitation patterns, fostered a renewed interest in the study of the climate and biota interactions.

Other similar climatic signals have later been reported in the early Paleogene record, suggesting that short-term climatic perturbations may have been of fundamental importance in the evolution of the biosphere. The Climate and Biota of the Early Paleogene (CBEP) meetings have emerged as the leading international forum to discuss these and related topics.

Highly successful meetings in this tradition were previously held, for example, in Zaragoza (Spain), Albuquerque (USA), Paris (France), Goteborg (Sweden), Powell (Wyoming, USA), Leuven (Belgium) and Luxor (Egypt). At the closing session of the last CBEP meeting in Luxor in 2004 it was decided to hold the next meeting, CBEP2006, in Bilbao. Three prominent features of past CBEP meetings have been: (i) an international attendance, scientists from more than 20 countries having regularly met; (ii) an interdisciplinary scope, which includes presentations on climate modelling, geochemistry, geochronology,

paleoceanography, paleoecology, stratigraphy and, last but not least, sedimentology, and on a wide range of settings, from continental to deep marine; and (iii) a single-session format. These features have proved an efficient way to promote cooperation and expertise exchange among different specialists, to the mutual benefit of all.

Technical sessions and conference field trips

Technical sessions, including oral and poster presentations, supplemented by social activities -including a visit to the Bilbao Guggenheim Museum- will be distributed over four days (June 12-16). To maintain the single-session format, authors will be encouraged to consider posters, particularly those intending to make more than one presentation. The official language of the meeting will be English.

The following main topics are preliminary envisaged:

- early Paleogene climatic history: stable isotopes, proxies, modelling
- early Paleogene biotic records: marine and terrestrial
- Initial Eocene Thermal Maximum and other transient perturbations: record and consequences
- early Paleogene geochronology time scale: new or revised astro-, bio-, magneto-, or chemostratigraphic databases.

A highlight of the meeting will be a half-day field trip to the Zumaia section. This famous section exposes in sea-cliffs a continuous succession of deep-water uppermost Cretaceous – lowermost Eocene hemipelagic deposits, uplifted by the Alpine orogeny. The section has been the subject of numerous studies in the past and was proposed as a global stratotype section for both the Cretaceous/Paleogene and the Paleocene/Eocene boundaries. Currently it is a candidate for the Danian/Selandian and Selandian/Thanetian boundaries.

In addition, an optional half-day field trip will be offered to the Azkorri section. This section is situated just a few km to the north of Bilbao and contains a thick and continuous deep-water lower Eocene succession. It is a prospective candidate for the Ypresian/Lutetian boundary.

Venue

Bilbao is situated near the shore of the Bay of Biscay (latitude: 43° 17; longitude: 02°, 54'), along the banks of the Nervion River and surrounded by hills and mountains. It is the largest city of the Basque Country, with more than 350,000 inhabitants in the capital itself, and about 550,000 more in nearby

villages along the river (the so-called «Great Bilbao» agglomeration). Formerly an industrial city, mainly based on mining, steel and shipping activities, the city has been remodelled in the last two decades to a high-quality services and business centre. In this process, the banks of the river, formerly occupied by shipyards and docks, have been transformed into pleasant walking boulevards that now house facilities such as the famous Bilbao Guggenheim Museum, modern hotels, shopping malls and the new Convention Palace.

The weather in Bilbao is wet oceanic, with mild winters and warm summers. Mean temperatures in June are around 18° C, with a range between 10° and 35° C. June is usually the driest month of the year, with an average precipitation of 30 cc/month.

Post-Meeting Field trip

The CBEP2006 Meeting will be followed by a three-day long field trip (plus one additional day for return) in the southern Pyrenees. The Pyrenees is one of the few areas in the world where early Paleogene deposits of a continuous range of facies, from terrestrial to deep marine, are accessible in outcrops within a comparatively short distance (< 400 km). The effects of early Paleogene events, notably those of the mid-Paleocene lowstand sea level and the Initial Eocene Thermal Maximum, can thus be examined in a variety of settings. The field trip will focus on the following selected sections, all of them early Paleogene in age:

Day 17th of June: Erize and Lizarraga pass sections, Navarra province: the former contains carbonate base-of-slope deposits, the latter platform-margin deposits, including a prominent late Danian coragal rim.

Day 18th of June: Ordesa National Park and Campo sections, Huesca province: in Ordesa a mid-platform carbonate succession has been uplifted to more than 3,000 m altitude (the highest carbonate massif in Europe) and is exposed in impressive canyons; Campo is a classical section in the Pyrenees, being the parastratotype of the Ilerdian (early Ypresian) stage. It features an inner platform/transitional succession.

Day 19th June: Berganuy (Huesca province) and Esplugafreda sections (Lleida province): they are made of «Garumnian» deposits (Paleocene and lowermost Ilerdian continental facies) overlain by marine Ilerdian deposits. The Initial Eocene Thermal Maximum interval is well developed in the upper part of the Garumnian section.

Day 20th of June: Return to Bilbao by bus, or to Madrid or Barcelona by train.

For logistic reasons, the number of participants in the post-Meeting field trip will be limited to about 40. The places will be filled in a first come first served basis.

Important dates

30th November 2005: Distribution of Second Circular.

28th February 2006: Deadline for submission of abstracts

30th April 2006: Deadline for payment of fees for the meeting and the post-meeting field trip.

Convenors

Victoriano Pujalte and Xabier Orue-Etxebarria

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Web site: www.ehu.es/cbep2006

IAS Postgraduate Grant Scheme

IAS has established a grant scheme designed to help PhD students with their studies. We are offering to support postgraduates in their fieldwork, data acquisition and analysis, visits to other institutes to use specialised facilities, or participation in field excursions.

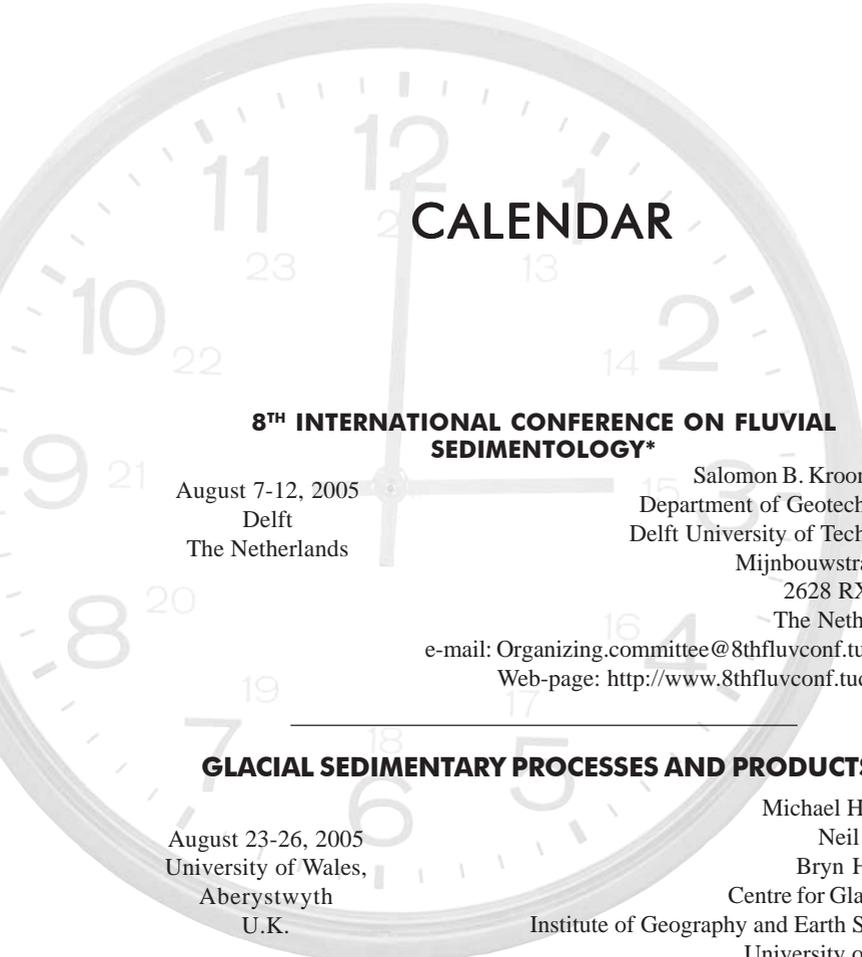
About 10 grants, each of up to a maximum of 1000 Euros, are awarded twice a year.

These grants are available for IAS members only, and only for postgraduates. Students enrolled in MSc programs are not eligible for grants. The application must include a short CV and a budget. A letter from the supervisor supporting the application must be sent directly to the Treasurer of the IAS.

An application form is on our website (<http://www.iasnet.org>). Moreover, the application form can be requested from the Treasurer's Office (IAS, Office of the Treasurer, Ghent University, Department of Geology and Soil Science, Krijgslaan 281/S8, B-9000 Gent, Belgium; E-mail: *Patric.Jacobs@UGent.be*)

Application deadlines: 1st session: March 31
2nd session: **September 1**

Recipient notification: 1st session: before June 30
2nd session: **before December 31**



CALENDAR

8TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FLUVIAL SEDIMENTOLOGY*

August 7-12, 2005
Delft
The Netherlands

Salomon B. Kroonenberg
Department of Geotechnology
Delft University of Technology
Mijnbouwstraat 120
2628 RX Delft,
The Netherlands

e-mail: Organizing.committee@8thfluvconf.tudelft.nl
Web-page: <http://www.8thfluvconf.tudelft.nl/>

GLACIAL SEDIMENTARY PROCESSES AND PRODUCTS*

August 23-26, 2005
University of Wales,
Aberystwyth
U.K.

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7TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE CRETACEOUS

September 5-9, 2005
Neuchâtel
Switzerland

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Web-page: <http://www.unine.ch/geologie/isc7/>
Fax nr.: 0041-718 26 01

**CLIMATIC AND EVOLUTIONARY CONTROLS ON PALEOZOIC REEFS AND
BIOACCUMULATIONS**

September 7-9, 2005
Paris,
France

Emmanuelle Vennin
Dpt. Histoire de la Terre (Géologie, CP 49)
Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle
43 rue Buffon 75005 Paris, France
E-mail: evenning@mnhn.fr
Web-page: [http://www.ulg.ac.be/geolsed/MNHN/
Ist_circular.htm](http://www.ulg.ac.be/geolsed/MNHN/Ist_circular.htm)

12TH CONGRESS R.C.M.N.S.

September 6-11, 2005
Vienna,
Austria

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FRIEDMAN GEOSCIENCE CONFERENCE 2005

September 11-13, 2005
Try, New York
USA

Contact: Dr. Gerald M. Friedman
E-mail: gmfriedman@juno.com
Web site: www.thesciencefoundation.com

**THE 3RD NATIONAL SEDIMENTARY CONGRESS OF CHINA
SEDIMENTOLOGY & SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT**

September, 2005
Chendu,
China

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10TH FRENCH CONGRESS OF SEDIMENTOLOGY

October 11-13, 2005
Presqu'île de Giens,
France

Pr. Marc Floquet
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THE NONMARINE PERMIAN

October 21-29, 2005
Albuquerque,
New Mexico, USA

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LESSONS IN TECTONICS, CLIMATE AND EUSTACY FROM THE STRATIGRAPHIC RECORD IN ARC COLLISION ZONES A GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA PENROSE MEETING*

October 11-14, 2005
Price, Utah,
USA

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ArcPenroseMeeting.html](http://www.whoi.edu/pclift/ArcPenroseMeeting.html)

GONDWANA 12 CONFERENCE

November 6-11, 2005
Mendoza
Argentina

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Luis A. Spalletti | spalle@cig.museo.unlp.edu.ar
Centro de Investigaciones Geológicas,
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Argentina. Phone/Fax: 54 221 4215677
Web site: <http://cig.museo.unlp.edu.ar/gondwana/>

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DELTAS (BORNEO VENUE): DEPOSITIONAL SYSTEMS AND STRATIGRAPHIC DEVELOPMENT. A JOINT MEETING OF 3RD ANNUAL MEETING OF IGCP-475 'DELTAS IN THE MONSOON ASIA-PACIFIC REGION (DELTAMAP)' AND 2ND MEETING OF CCOP DELSEA PROJECT

January 13-18, 2006
University Brunei
Darussalam,
Brunei

Contact: Yoshiki Saito (DSC)
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Web site: <http://unit.aist.go.jp/igg/rg/coast-rg/ADP.html>

CLIMATE AND BIOTA OF THE EARLY PALEOGENE

June 12-16, 2006
Bilbao,
Spain

Dr. Victoriano Pujalte
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POLISH SEDIMENTOLOGICAL CONFERENCE SEDIMENTATION IN FORELAND BASINS

June 22-23, 2006
(including field-trips
June 21-26)
Zwierzyniec, Poland
(field trips also in
Ukraine)

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PALAEOPEDOLOGY: NEW PERSPECTIVES ON OLD SOILS*

July 17-20, 2006
Cardiff
UK

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17TH INTERNATIONAL SEDIMENTOLOGICAL CONGRESS*

August 27 –
September 1, 2006
Fukuoka
Japan

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CARBONIFEROUS CONFERENCE COLOGNE 2006

**FROM PLATFORM TO BASIN. A RESEARCH FIELD CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY
SEPM-CES**

September 4-10, 2006
Cologne,
Germany

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SEA LEVEL CHANGES: RECORDS AND MODELING (SEALAIX'06)

Convenors : G.Camoin (CNRS, Aix-en-Provence, France), A. Droxler (Rice
University, Houston, USA), C. Fulthorpe (Univ. of Texas, USA), K. Miller
(Rutgers University, USA)

September 25-29, 2006
Aix-en-Provence
and Giens,
France

Gilbert Camoin
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4TH INTERNATIONAL LIMNOGEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

July 11-14, 2007
Barcelona
Spain

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**25TH MEETING OF SEDIMENTOLOGY
(SEDIMENTOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT)***

September 4-7, 2007
Patras,
Greece

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Web-page: <http://ias2007.geology.upatras.gr/>

***THESE EVENTS HAVE FULL OR
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